

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14

RSC-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01 SWF-02 FEA-02 DRC-01 /245 W

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: GATT

SUBJ: GATT MANAGEMENT

REF: STATE 113792 AND GENEVA 3556

SUMMARY: MEETINGS OF KEY DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRY DELS JUNE 5-6 ASKED GATT DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG TO PREPARE SUGGESTIONS IN WRITING REFLECTING HIS GATT "GROUPE DE CONCERTATION" PROPOSAL. REACTIONS IN BOTH GROUPS GENERALLY FAVORABLE BUT SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS RE COMPOSITION, FUNCTIONS AND AUTHORITY OF PROPOSED GROUP. END SUMMARY.

1. LONG REQUESTED REACTIONS TO HIS MANAGEMENT GROUP PROPOSAL AT MEETING OF KEY DEVELOPED COUNTRY DELS JUNE 6. SINCE THERE HAD BEEN ADVERSE REACTIONS TO BOTH "STEERING GROUP" AND "MANAGEMENT GROUP" BY THOSE NOT EXPECTING TO SIT IN GROUP ON GROUNDS TERMS IMPLY TOO MUCH AUTHORITY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE SUGGESTED FOR PRESENT CALLING IT "GROUPE DE CONCERTATION",

WITH IMPLICATION IT WILL CONCERT POSITIONS BUT NOT TAKE FORMAL DECISIONS. ENGLISH TITLE NOT SUGGESTED.

2. EC (LUYTEN) INDICATED FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARD IMPROVEMENT IN EFFICIENCY OF GATT, WHICH HE SAID COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY LONG'S IDEA OR IMPROVED SEVEN PLUS SEVEN. UNDER ANY SOLUTION EC WOULD EXPECT TO PARTICIPATE IN GROUP AND COMPOSITION OF EC DELEGATION WOULD BE WITHIN EC'S COMPETENCE.

3. MOST OTHER DELEGATIONS PRESENT (U.S., JAPAN, NORDICS, CANADA) INDICATED GENERALLY FAVORABLE ATTITUDES BUT SUGGESTED THERE WERE MANY QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED AND IT MIGHT BE TIME, AS MEANS OF CLARIFICATION, FOR LONG TO PUT HIS IDEAS ON PAPER. AUSTRALIA ASKED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS; SWITZERLAND MADE NO COMMENT.

4. U.S. (MILLER), AMONG OTHER REMARKS, SAID BURDEN OF EC COMMENT NOT CLEAR BUT HE ASSUMED EC WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY ONE MEMBER OF GROUP. THIS BROUGHT NO EC RESPONSE. (IN LATER PRIVATE CONVERSATION LUYTEN SAID HE THOUGHT EC POSITION WOULD PERMIT "AT BEST" SINGLE (COMISSION) MEMBER WITH NINE PERMITTED TO ATTEND WITHOUT MICROPHONES, "AT WORST" IT MIGHT IMPLY MORE, E.G. RIGHT OF MEMBERS TO SPEAK. WHEN WE ASKED COLMANT (FRANCE) FOR HIS VIEW HE SAID EC AND MEMBER STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE; "EC AND MEMBER STATES" WOULD BE KEY PHRASE, BUT SHOULD NOT BE DEFINED. HE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT COMMISSION SPOKESMAN WOULD NORMALLY DO THE TALKING BUT HIGH NATIONAL OFFICIALS COULD NOT BE FORBIDDEN TO DO SO. REPS OF NINE WOULD HAVE TO BE ALLOWED TO BE PRESENT, THOUGH HE AGREED USUAL SIXTEEN OR EIGHTEEN AT SEVEN PLUS SEVEN SHOULD BE REDUCED.)

5. IN RESPONSE TO AUSTRALIAN QUESTIONS, LONG SAID HE THOUGHT GROUP WOULD MEET WHEN NEEDED TO DEAL WITH WHATEVER IMPORTANT PROBLEMS IT NEEDS TO DEAL WITH, HOWEVER ANTICIPATING RATHER THAN WAITING FOR DEVELOPMENTS; PROPOSED GROUP WOULD BE IMPROVEMENT ON PRESENT MACHINERY BECAUSE IT WOULD INCLUDE HIGHER LEVEL, POLICY PEOPLE, ABLE TO SPEAK WITH AUTHORITY, AND IT WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGES OF VISIBILITY AND CONSEQUENT IMPROVEMENT OF CREDIBILITY OF CPS AS TRADE CARETAKER; GROUP WOULD CONCERT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITIONS AND PREPARE FOR COUNCIL AND CPS, WHICH WOULD RETAIN AUTHORITY; GROUP COULD BE INSTITUTED BY COUNCIL WITH SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL OF CPS, NO AMENDMENT OF GATT NEEDED; INFORMAL GROUP SUCH AS SEVEN PLUS SEVEN STILL WOULD BE NEEDED.

6. LONG SAID REACTIONS OF KEY DEVELOPING COUNTRY DELEGATIONS ALSO HAD BEEN POSITIVE. IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS OF BOTH GROUPS HE WOULD UNDERTAKE TO PREPARE PAPER WHICH HE HOPES TO

HAVE READY SHORTLY AFTER RETURN FROM U.S.

7. SALEEM (PAKISTAN) TOLD US REACTIONS AT LONG'S DEVELOPING
COUNTRY MEETING JUNE 5 HAD BEEN GENERALLY FAVORABLE BUT
FULL OF QUESTIONS WHICH THEIR GROUP THOUGHT PAPER MIGHT HELP
RESOLVE.ABRAMS

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